

STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
General Board Committee Meeting Agenda
Friday, March 6, 2026
11:00 am

Physical Meeting Location
250 South Hotel Street, Honolulu HI 96813
Multipurpose Resource Room, First Floor

MINUTES

Members Present

Konrad Ng, Chairperson, Janet Sato, Maui, Randall Fujiki, At-Large; Michael Marshall, Hawaii Island, Randall Francisco, Kauai. Susana Browne, At-Large, Sean Connelly, At-Large

Member Absent

Jill Kuramoto, At-Large, Marcia Roberts-Deutsch, At-Large

SFCA Staff Present

Karen Ewald, Executive Director; Elizabeth Baxter, Curator, Kamakani Konia, Art in Public Places Director,

Others Present

None

1. Call to Order

Konrad Ng, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 11:05 am

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Karen Ewald called the determination of quorum. All Commissioners were present, except for Jill Kuramoto and Marcia Roberts-Deutsch

3. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on March 6, 2026

A motion to approve the Minutes of the last General Board committee meeting held on March 6, 2026 as amended was made by Robert Francisco and seconded by Randall Fujiki. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

4. Public Testimony on Agendized Items

Konrad Ng called for any public testimony. There were no public testimonies.

5. Approval of Gift/Purchase Recommendations for the Art in Public Places Collection

**Kauai Society of Artists, Kukui Grove Center, "Art Kaua'i 2025," juried exhibition
(September 12, 2025 - October 24, 2025)**

AASC VACS: Carol Yotsuda, Wayne Miyata, Sally French

SFCA: Eli Baxter

1. DEAN, Jeremy. 6087-26 "(In) Divisible"
single unwoven American flag, 3,500 needles, 2023, 24 x 38"
\$24,000.00

2. OUCHI, Tomoko. 6088-26 "Waiting for Harry"

acrylic, 2025, 40" x 60"
\$6,000.00

3. WOOLWAY, Pam. 6089-26 "Lighten Up"
clay, 2024, 6.5 x 8"
\$525.00

4. YASUTAKE, Kobi. 6090-26 "33 Teachers"
mixed media, 2025, 30 x 22"
\$2,500.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Janet Sato and seconded by Randall Francisco. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

Donkey Mill Art Center, "Rhythms of Resonance: Explorations in Collaborative Ceramics," curated exhibition (August 23, 2025 - October 11, 2025)

Sherm Warner, Leslie Steinwachs, Margo Ray, Hiroki Morinoue, Wayne Levin
SFCA: Eli Baxter

1. AGUIRRE, Amber JACOBSON, Kate JACOBSON, Will. 6102-26 "No Space for Tyranny" ceramic, 2025, 10.5 x 42 x 27.5"
\$6,800.00

2. WATANABE-MORINOUE, Setsuko NAKAZATO, Tomoko. 6103-26 "Shu, Ha, Ri"
ceramic, glazes and paper, 2025, 21.5 x 37 x 2.25"
\$4,500.00

3. HAGEN, Kimberly SMITH, Shelby. 6104-26 "Introspection"
porcelain, steel wire, ceramic pigments, wood, adhesive, 2025, 8 x 19 x 5.5"
\$1,800.00

4. BACKUS, Jill WHEELER, Dave. 6105-26 "I got you"
ceramic, stoneware, underglazes, 2025, 21 x 14 x 12"
\$3,800.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Susana Browne and seconded by Randall Francisco. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board

Kahilu Theatre, "Ma kāhi o ka hana ola ma laila: Textiles of Moku o Keawe," curated exhibition (September 27, 2025 - November 2, 2025)

AASC VACS: Sherm Warner, Margo Ray, Mary Begier
SFCA COMM: Michael Marshall
SFCA: Eli Baxter

1. FISHER-FORESTER, Puakea. 6106-26 "Kaulike (Circle in Square)"
kapa, he'e, catch, linen, cotton, 2025, 40.5 x 16.75"
\$935.00

2. KAYTON, Edwin. 6107-26 "Telling the Story"
oil on linen, 2025, 18.625 x 14.875"
\$1,500.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Randall Francisco and seconded by Susana Browne. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

Bishop Square, Pauahi Tower Lobby, "Journeys," curated exhibition (November 1, 2025 - January 3, 2026)

AASC VACS: Liz Train, Noreen Naughton, Greg Northrup

SFCA: Kamakani Konia, Eli Baxter

1. KIYABU, David. 6117-26 "Beginnings"

marble/wood, 2025, 4.75" x 10" x 6.5"

\$2,000.00

2. KIYABU, David. 6118-26 "Valley Highs"

aragonite/wood, 2025, 5" x 9.5" x 6"

\$1,500.00

2. KIYABU, David. 6119-26 "Nomads"

marble/wood, 2025, 14" x 12.5" x 6"

\$5,500.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Janet Sato and seconded by Susana Browne. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

Hawaii Island Art Alliance, Wailoa Art Center, "2025 Hawai'i Nei Art Exhibition," juried exhibition (November 7, 2025 - December 11, 2025)

AASC VACS: Sherm Warner, Marilyn Nicholson, Codie King, Meidor Hu

SFCA: Eli Baxter

1. TIDMARSH, Dominic. 6121-26 "In The Flow Of Makua's Time

watercolor, watercolor pencil, and gouache on Arches 300lb cold press paper, 2025,

18.75 x 37.75"

\$2,750.00

2. FICKINGER, Heidi. 6122-26 "Swirl of 'Āhinahina"

photography, 2025, 31.125 x 25.125"

\$500.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Randall Francisco and seconded by Susana Browne. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

Donkey Mill Art Center, "I Mana Ka Mo'omo'o," curated exhibition (October 25, 2025 - December 13, 2025)

AASC VACS: Sherm Warner, Leslie Steinwachs, Hiroki Morinoue

SFCA COMM: Michael Marshall

SFCA: Eli Baxter

1. FISHER-FORESTER, Puakea. 6127-26 "Mahina Wai Kākou"

Hawaiian kapa, squid ink, hand-mulled oil paint, 'alaea, weld, Lā'ie lepo, handwoven

hemp linen (ca. early 1900s), bamboo and cotton, 2025, 24 x 41"

\$4,400.00

2. Lehuauakea. 6128-26 "Lā Kū'oko'a Flyer (after Black and Auld)"

wildfire charcoal and ochre pigment hand-painted on kapa, 2023, 25.25 x 17.5"

\$3,000.00

3. Lehuauakea. 6129.01-.02-26 "Kū'ē Petition I and II"

wildfire charcoal and ochre pigment hand-painted on kapa, 2023, 31.25 x 48.75"

\$8,000.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Susana Browne and seconded by Randall Francisco. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, The Art Gallery, "‘O Ka Wai Mai مي From Lahaina to the Litani," curated exhibition (January 13, 2026 - February 18, 2026)

AASC VACS: Greg Northrup, Susan Hogan

SFCA COMM: Marcia Morse

SFCA: Kamakani Konia, Eli Baxter

1. CHING, Kahi. 6135-26 "Umeke Pōhaku"

pōhaku (stone), 2025, 8 x 23 x 15"

\$1,800.00

2. CHING, Kahi. 6136-26 "Umeke Pōhaku II"

pōhaku (stone), 2025, 11 x 29 x 22"

\$1,800.00

3. KNEUBUHL, Hina. 6137-26 "Ka 'Ai Kupuna: Collaborating with Water"

kapa, earth pigments, 2025, 30.5 x 55"

\$16,000.00

4. KNEUBUHL, Hina. 6138-26 "Lifeblood: Water's Story Held in the Land"

kapa, earth pigments, 2025, 34 x 55"

\$10,000.00

5. BASSOUS, Reem. 6139.01-10-26 "The Living Bones"

acrylic, graphite, colored pencil on bristol paper, 2021-2024, 11 x 17" each (10 total)

\$9,000.00

The motion to approve the purchases was done by Susana Browne and seconded by Randall Francisco. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

6. Approval of the Visitation Schedule for Recommendations for Art Acquisition Selection Committees

1. Exhibition Title:

MidSummer Art Celebration

Exhibition Opening Date:

2026-05-15

Exhibition Closing Date:

2026-06-18

Location of Exhibition:

Wailoa Arts and Cultural Center

200 Piopio St.

Hilo, HI 96720

2. Exhibition Title:

Fiber Hawaii 2026

Exhibition Opening Date:

2026-06-05

Exhibition Closing Date:

2026-06-27

Location of Exhibition:

Downtown Art Center Gallery

3. Exhibition Title:

36 Views of Mauna Loa (Phase II)

Exhibition Opening Date:

2026-06-20

Exhibition Closing Date:

2026-08-28

Location of Exhibition:

East Hawaii Cultural Center

The motion to approve the visitation schedule was done by Randall Francisco and seconded by Susana Browne. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

7. Director's Report – Legislative Update, Strategic Plan Update, SFCA Staffing Update

Karen Ewald reported that the House bills supported by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) successfully moved out of the House Committee on Finance. These measures included bills related to SFCA grant standards, arts education funding, the Artists in the Schools program, arts data mapping, the designation of the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra as the official state symphony, the establishment of the Hawai'i Cultural Trust, and the proposed transfer of SFCA and the King Kamehameha Celebration Commission to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Two Senate bills impacting SFCA were monitored closely. SB 2921 proposed transferring balances from various non-general funds, including the Works of Art Special Fund, into the General Fund. SFCA submitted testimony in opposition, citing legal concerns regarding the use of CIP General Obligation bond funds for general fund purposes, as well as the importance of the Works of Art Special Fund in supporting Hawai'i artists and the creative economy. SB 3007 proposed establishing an Office of Creative Innovation within SFCA, including a Governor-appointed Executive Director and Specialist positions. This measure had not yet been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

SFCA also advanced implementation of its Strategic Plan, with development of measurable goals, timelines, and evaluation metrics beginning in late March 2026. Progress was shared regularly with the Commission and publicly through reports, e-news, and the website, with the Strategic Plan serving as the framework for FY27 budget priorities. In addition, SFCA had five vacant positions in various stages of recruitment, including Arts Program Specialist, Administrative Services Assistant, and Secretary roles.

8. Executive Session (closed to the public):

The motion to enter into Executive Session was done by Susana Browne and seconded by Janet Sato. The motion was unanimously approved by the full board.

The Commission anticipates convening an executive session to consider the Evaluation of the SFCA Executive Director, pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(2), HRS, provided that if the Executive Director concerned requests an open meeting, an open meeting shall be held, and/or under section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with the Commission's attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities.

9. Announcements

Susana Browne, Chair of the Administrative Committee, reported that the board met in executive session to discuss the results of Karen Ewald's evaluation. She stated that she and the Board Chair will meet with Ms. Ewald to review the results, discuss next steps for addressing areas of growth, and communicate her strengths and achievements.

10. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn was done by Susana Browne and seconded by Randall Francisco. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 pm

